

## REVIEWS

### *Report of the Fauna Protection Panel, for the year ended June 30, 1959.*

The report is divided into three parts, dealing with (a) Retention of Natural Cover; (b) Education and Publicity; (c) Fauna Management and Supervision in the State of New South Wales. Enquiries into the alleged effects of certain hormone sprays on insectivorous birds have led to the conclusion that there are no ill effects. Investigations on Zebra Finches has shown that these birds "are no more significant in the distribution of red scale" amongst citrus trees "than a number of other birds, insects, wind, and even fruit-pickers." The Panel has therefore recommended against the lifting of the protection from Zebra Finches in New South Wales. The Chairman of the Panel and Chief Guardian of Fauna is Mr. Allen A. Strom.—H.T.C.

### *Annual Report of "The Commissioners of the National Park and Wild Life Reserves" (for year ended 30th June, 1960).*

The following extracts from this publication (P.P. 56, 1960) are of interest:—

"Addition to the National Park.

The Government's decision to purchase for £16,250, Melville's property of 66 acres which adjoins the eastern boundary of the Park, gave great satisfaction to the Commissioners. About 40 acres of the property is natural bushland, while the remainder, in the vicinity of the old homestead on the property, has been cleared and planted with fruit trees . . . A considerable part of this addition to the Park will be suitable for recreational purposes, and a number of tennis courts will be constructed here to help to supply the ever-increasing demand for these facilities.

#### Wild Life Reserves.

The Ferries and Macdonald Reserves at Hartley and Chaunceys Line are becoming more valuable as the surrounding country is cleared and developed. These reserves

are of particular interest to those interested in the preservation of our flora and fauna.

The Nixon-Skinner reserve at Myponga is in the same category . . . .

#### New Reserves.

The Commissioners congratulate the Government on its foresight in setting aside, as a wild-life reserve, 2,600 acres of "Fairview" Estate, situated about 11 miles north of Lucindale . . . . The Commissioners have asked the Government to vest in them two water reserves situated on the Fleurieu Peninsula, near Waitpinga (of 6½ and 5 acres respectively.—Ed.). This request was made in order to ensure that a sample of the natural vegetation found in this district may be preserved for posterity and for the protection of birds which drink from the spring which gives running water through both reserves all the year round. Black Hill and its surroundings were inspected. . . . The report suggests the acquisition of land on the western slopes, adjoining an existing 10-acre reserve on the summit, for the protection of flora and fauna and for recreational purposes . . ."

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Note: The Commissioners are Prof. Cleland (Chairman), Messrs. Hale (Deputy Chairman), H. Womersley, McGilp and M. T. Phillips; ex-officio members (eight in number) include the Hon. the Minister of Lands (Mr. C. S. Hincks), the Rt. Hon. the Lord Mayor of Adelaide, the Directors of the Zoo and Botanic Garden, Conservator of Forests, President of the Royal Society, and representatives from the Royal Agricultural and Horticultural Society and the Lands Department.

Areas vested in the Commissioners are National Park, Belair (2,300 acres), and three wild-life reserves (total, 2,021 acres). Areas pending transfer to the control of the Commissioners are "Fairview," via Lucindale (2,600 acres), Penwortham (14 acres), and two water reserves (total 11½ acres).—H.T.C.